GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2497
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2001
SUBSTITUTE OF POTASH
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts/research work are being made in the country to find out the substitute of Potash;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Indian Potash Limited has contributed Rs. 4.5 crore for this research work;

(d) if so, whether the research work has got a set-back due to non-availability of funds;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to give sufficient funds for the purpose;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): India does not have potash rich soluble minerals and encrustations. Hence, most of the fertilizer K (i.e. potash) used in India is imported. Attempts have been made to characterize and evaluate certain indigenous insoluble K sources like feldspar, mica, glauconites, illitic shales, flyash, schoenite etc. as source of K to plants. However, no practical recommendations could emerge from these studies for commercial exploitation of those sources.

(c): No, Sir, IPL has however invested Rs. 4.5 crore to promote Potash Research Institute of India

(d) to (g): Do not arise.